

FROM POOP TO GLIMMER

www.yuvizalkow.com/poop

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- why do you want to get published?
- how comfortable are you with rejection?
- do you know when to take in feedback and when to ignore it?
- you have two jobs: (1) writing, (2) submitting...
the second job is useless without careful attention to the first

REMINDERS

(AKA: THINGS MY LECTURE SHOULD HAVE COVERED BUT DIDN'T)

- read submission guidelines carefully!
(word counts, submission periods, what they're looking for, whether they allow simultaneous submissions, etc.)
- hand-written rejections are good! it means you've got their attention
- always keep honing your writing craft
- drink heavily

WHERE TO LOOK FOR MAGAZINES...

- www.duotrope.com
- writer's market
- contributor's notes in journals and books

WRITING SPREADSHEET

	A	B	C	D	E	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	
1			w							2	2		2	0	0	
2		Publication	w w w	notes	circ		PUBLISHED STORY 1	PUBLISHED STORY 2		my best unpublished story here	story 2	story 3	story 4	story 5	story 6	stor
3										1	1	1	2	2	2	
4	Tier 0 (career changers)															
5		great mag 1	w	lim		-				5/23/09	rejected					
6		great mag2				-										
7	Tier 1 (consumer and bigtime lits)															
8		good mag 1	w	nss		-		rejected								
9		good mag 2	w	e, len		-										
10	Tier 2 (solid lit mags)															
11		decent mag 1				-										
12		decent mag 2				-										
13		decent mag 3				-	PUBLISHED!									
14	Tier 3 (good lit mags)															
15		okay mag 1				-										
16		okay mag 2				-										
17		okay mag 3				-		PUBLISHED!								
18	Tier 4 (small lit mags)															
19		so so mag 1				-										
20		so so mag 2				-										
21	Uncategorized															
22		weirdo mag 1				-										
23		weirdo mag 2				-										
24						-										
25	Notes:															
26		nss = no simultaneous submissions														
27		e = electronic submissions accepted														
28		lim = limited submission time period														
29		vlim = very limited time period														
30		len = length restrictions														
31		qui = unusual submission guidelines														
32																

HOW I USE THIS SPREADSHEET:

I prioritize the stories from the one I'm most confident in to the one I'm least confident in...

I enter the submission date in each cell. When a story is rejected, I changed the cell to "rejected".

When a story is published, I write "PUBLISHED!" in the cell; I then highlight the row and column a

WRITING LOG

- highlighted items are those submissions currently awaiting response
- **bold items** have been accepted or have won contests or something else good
- all other items have been rejected

1) submission date. story title. publication. (rejection date)

2) 5/24/09. My Poopy Story. Cool Magazine. (6/30)

3) 5/25/09. My Poopy Story. Crappy Magazine. (ACCEPTED on 7/22!)

4) 5/27/09. My Poopy Story. Cool Magazine 2.

SAMPLE COVER LETTER

(NO CREDITS)

Date

My Address...

Ms. Editor's Name
Editor
Magazine Name
Magazine Address

Dear Ms. Last Name:

Enclosed is my short fiction submission, **My Poopy Story** (3,676 words), for consideration in Magazine Name.

I have recently begun submitting my short fiction for publication and would love to make my start with Magazine Name.

The SASE is for notification only.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

My Name

SAMPLE COVER LETTER

(SOME CREDITS)

....

Dear First Name,

Thanks so much for your personal letter to my last submission and your encouragement to submit again. Enclosed is my fiction submission, **My Extra Poopy Story** (5,000 words), for consideration in Reputable Magazine.

My work is the recipient of two Pushcart nominations, and has appeared in numerous publications, including Magazine 1, Magazine 2, Magazine 3, and Magazine 4. My stories have also been finalists in Contest 1 and Contest 2. I'm currently pursuing an MFA at Reputable College X.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

My Name

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